decided to participate in 17 fairs and exhibitions abroad during 1994-95 which have the approval for budgetary support from Govt. ITPO also propose to participate in 22 specialised fairs on self-financing basis in various countries of Europe, America, Asia and Oceania. The products for display cover wide range of items engineering goods, machineries, automobiles all kinds of consumer goods, garments, leatherwares, gems and jewellery, fashion accessories, agro industries, home furnishings, toys and stationery etc. The foreign exchange earnings from these items will depend on orders obtained by participants at the or later on negotiations held with importers and buyers.

(e) Yes Sir.

(f) "Indexpo '94" is an exclusive Indian exhibition which would be organised by ITPO to introduce Indian products and export capabilities. at Johannesburg, which is the centre of South Africa's market/ business interest. With the opening up of South African market consequent to lifting of the embargo by the Govt. of India, ITPO has sought to expose a variety of Indian products in this promising market.

(g) Yes Sir.

(h) The trade fairs/exhibitions in other countries have given a considerable boost to our exports during the past several years e.g. during 1993-94 the total business generated through 42 fairs abroad as reported by the participants was to the tune of Rs. 1025.62 crores, including 366.32 crores of confirmed business booked.

Closure of Idgah Abattoir Causing Adverse Affect on Export of Meat

3663. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether closure of the Idgah Abattoir in New Delhi has adversely affected the export of meat from the country;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take some steps in this regard; and

(d) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d) The Hon'ble High Court, Delhi in its order of 18-3-94 ordered that the Idgah Slaughter House must be closed. But if it continues for any reason whatsoever, slaughtering should be restricted to 2000 sheep and goat and 500 buffaloes. The butchers have gone on strike with effect from 23-3-94 in protest against the judgement. This would affect exports, as Delhi is a major centre for supply of meat for exports.

In a separate case, in which the Delhi High Court ordered that the Idgah Slaughter House be closed with effect from 31-12-93 and that a new modern slaughter house be constructed in any area away from the city on or before 31-12-93, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi had appealed for extension of time. The next date of hearing is 29-4-94.

The Government of India have requested Delhi Administration to to set up a new slaughter house.

National Advisory Committee on Patent Information

3664. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to consti-

tute a National Advisory Committee for patent information to look into issues relating to patents; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this respect and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The Patent Information System (PIS) headquartered at Nagpur is being modernised with assistance from WIPO/UNDP. The Expert Missions under this project have recommended setting up of an Advisory Committee to advise the PIS on its services and operations. Government has not yet taken a decision on the recommendation.

Increased Prices of Raw Material Affecting Exports

3665. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that exporters, especially those manufacturing textiles-related products, handicrafts, leather, jute and light engineering goods are facing difficulty in executing export orders due to a sharp increase in the prices of raw materials;

(b) whether it is a fact that the closure of a large number of small-scale industries in various parts of the country had stopped the flow of raw materials to the exporters;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose immediate action to ractify the position in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Exports to South Africa

3666. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have prepared an action plan to achieve an export target of Rs. 2000 crores to South Africa besides setting up joint ventures;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to explore the possibliity of creating a nodal agency facilitating transhipment of Indian goods to Latin American countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir. It is, however, expected that Indian exports to South Africa are likely to gain substantially though it is difficult to estimate the exact value at this stage.

(c) No, Sir.

New Delhi G-15 Summit

3667. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be plaesed to state :

(a) whether New Delhi Summit of G-15 opposed move for trade curbs;